

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 00505 231243Z

46

ACTION FBOE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 A-01 /011 W

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P 231210Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5334

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 0505

FOR A/FBO AND NEA/EX

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGSAC ABLD

SUBJECT: METAL LADDER FROM 5TH FLOOR ROOF TO TOP ROOF OF
CHANCERY - GOVERNMENT-OWNED PROPERTY NO. 03438

REF: TEL AVIV'S OM DATE DECEMBER 10, 1975 AND
DEPARTMTNE'S OM DATED JANUARY 14, 1975

1 THE DEPARTMENT IS ASKED TO REVIEW THE EMBASSY'S REQUEST
FOR A METAL LADDER FROM 5TH FLOOR TO TOP ROOF OF
CHANCERY. IN SUPPORT OF THIS REQUEST THE EMBASSY SUBMITS
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

2. FREQUENCY OF USE FACTOR:

ACCESS TO THE 5TH FLOOR ROOF IS FREQUENT AND IS REQUIRED
NOT ONLY BY EMBASSY MAINTENANCE STAFF BUT BY CONTRACTOR
STAFF AND MOST IMPORTANTLY BY AMERICAN EMBASSY
PERSONNEL WHO ARE REQUIRED TO GO TO THE 5TH FLOOR ROOF,
NIGHT OR DAY, TO ENSURE THAT EMBASSY COMMUNICATIONS ARE
ADEQUATELY MAINTAINED.

LISTED BELOW ARE NATURE OF VISITS TO THE 5TH FLOOR ROOF:

A. INDIGENOUS WORKMEN MAINTAINING BOTH MAIN EMBASSY
BUILDING AND THE ANNEX ELEVATORS NORMALLY ON
AVERAGE OF ONCE A WEEK BUT THESE DAYS IN VIEW OF
ELEVATOR DISRUPTIONS, SEVERAL TIMES DAILY.

B. INDIGENOUS WORKMEN MAINTAINING EMBASSY MAIN WATER-
CHILLERS.

C. U.S. I.S. TECHNICIANS CHECKING ANTENNAS (TCU OWNED)

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D. F.B.I.S. TECHNICIANS CHECKING ANTENNAS, BOTH ON

5TH FLOOR ROOF AND ON TOP OF WATER TOWER.
E. T.C.U. PERSONNEL MAINTIANINGANTENNAS AND MAKING
VARIOUS CHECKS TO SATELLITE RADOME, AVERAGE OF
THREE TIMES A WEEK.
F. C.R.U. TECHNICANS CHECKING ANTENNAS
G. EMBASSY INDIGENOUS EMPLOYEES PERIODIC PAINTING
AND CLEANING UP ON ROOF.

3. SAFETY FACTOR:
THE POSTCANNT UNDERSTAND THE DEPARTMENT'S RETICENCE RESPECTING
THE EMBASSY'S REQUEST TO REPLACE A VERTICAL SHIP-TYPE LADDER
LEADING TO AN UNPROTECTED ROOF EDGE WHICH HAS NO OTHER
PROTECTIVE RAILING. THIS LADDER IS DANGEROUS BECAUSEIT GETS
COVERED WITH SALT ANDSPRAY FROM THE SEASIDE EXPOSURE; IT IS
SLIPPERY DURING RAINS AND UNPROTECTED FROM STRONG EASTERLY
WINDS.
ADD TO THIS THE NEED FORTHE MAINTANCEMAN AND THE TCU
TECHNICIAN WHO HAS TO CLIMB UP THER WITH TOOLS IN HIS
HAND, A HONE HAND CLIMB OR A ONE AND HALF HAND CLIMB, IS
NOT SAFE ENOUGH. NOTWITHSTANDING THE SEVERE BUDGET
LIMITATIONS NOW EXISITNGTHE EMBASSY REQUESTS THE DEPARTMENT'S
RE-EVALUATION OF ITS REQUEST FOR A LOW ANGLE METAL STARIWAY
WITH HANDRAILS AS RECOMMENDED IN ITS OM OF DECEMBER 10, 1974.
EMPHASIS ON SAFETY CANNOT BE STRESSED ENOUGH AS DURING
A RECENT NIGHT VISIT TO THE 5TH FLOOR ROOF, AND EMPLOYEE ON
THE TCU STAFF BARELY AVOIDED AN ACCIDENT, WHEN HE SLIPPED AND
ALMOST FELL.
VELIOTES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TELAV00505
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750025-0768
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750125/aaaaavwa.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION FBOE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 TEL AVIV'S OM DATE DECEMBE 10, 75 1975
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 MAY 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <17 FEB 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: METAL LADDER FROM 5TH FLOOR ROOF TO TOP ROOF OF CHANCERY - GOVERNMENT-OWNED PROPERTY NO. 03438
TAGS: ABLD, AC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006